

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated February 23, 2004. Claims 2-10, 14, 16, and 18 are pending.

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Tang in view of Rebeschi. This Section 103(a) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 10 requires that "said voltage application means applies said prescribed electric fields in a manner such that said prescribed electric fields are always different from one another in polarity in all adjacent electrode pair regions and vary in a time-dependent manner." The cited art fails to disclose or suggest this aspect of claim 10.

As shown in the attachment to the Amendment filed July 10, 2003, Rebeschi applies the same -210 V to neighboring pixels during operation. Figs. 6E-6F of Rebeschi clearly illustrate that the same -210 V is applied to immediately neighboring pixels in adjacent columns during operation of Rebeschi's display device. Moreover, Figs. 5E-5F and 6E-6F of Rebeschi illustrate that the *same polarity is applied to all neighboring pixels belonging to the same row in Rebeschi*. Since Rebeschi requires applying the same polarity to all neighboring pixels in the same row, the reference cannot possibly disclose or suggest the requirement of claim 10 that the prescribed electric fields are always different from each other in polarity in all adjacent electrode pair regions. In fact, Rebeschi teaches directly away from this aspect of claim 10 by applying the same polarity to adjacent pixels.

Accordingly, it can be seen that even if Tang and Rebeschi were combined as alleged in the Office Action (which applicant believes would be incorrect in any event), the invention of claim 10 still would not be met.

The Office Action appears to contend that the claim as previously worded did not require that polarity be different in *all* adjacent electrode pair regions. However, claim 10 has been amended to prevent such an argument by the Examiner. In particular, claim 10 has been amended to make clear that electric fields are always different from one another in polarity in all adjacent electrode pair regions. This prevents the Examiner from arguing that the claim is met when only a few adjacent regions have opposite polarity as allegedly disclosed in Rebeschi.

Claim 14 requires "driving said organic EL emission device in a manner such that said prescribed electric fields at a given point in time are always different from each other in polarity as applied to all electrode pair regions that are adjacent to each other." Again, the cited art fails to disclose or suggest this aspect of claim 14, either taken alone or in the alleged combination.

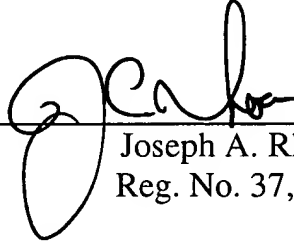
For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

TANEYA et al.
Appl. No. 09/369,386
May 24, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Rhoa', is written over a horizontal line.

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